GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1094
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2003
CLOSURE OF FERTILIZERS UNITS
SUNIL KHAN

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

e :

(a) whether the employees of seven closed fertilizer units of HFCI, FCIand Bharat Opthalmic Glass Limited have got their salaries, gratuity, P.F. and VRS benefits;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether employees quarters are going to be sold to the employees at the depreciated value;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the likely criteria for restoring the quarters to the employees;

(g) whether it is a fact that after closing down the seven fertilizer units Government have imported 16 million tonnes of fertilizers;

(h) if so, the facts thereof; and

(i) the manner in which the Government propose to meet the requirement of fertilizers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (DR. CHHATTRA PAL SINGH)

(a) to (c): Consequent to the decision of the Government taken on 5.9.2002to close down the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC); and Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI) excepting the Jodhpur MiningOrganisation which has been constituted into a new company, these companies have offered to all its employees the benefits under the Voluntary Separation Scheme (VSS) to be funded by the Government. While full VSS payments due to them are paid at the time of their release,the ex-gratia and leave encashment to those employees retaining companies' accommodation are released on submission of 'No dues certificate'. Bharat Opthalmic Glass Limited is not a fertilizer manufacturing unit.

(d) to (f): The transfer price of quarters to the employees is dependent on the decision of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction to whom these companies stand referred.

(g) to (i): No, Sir. There was no import of urea during 2000-01 and 2002- 03 till now. However, 2.2 lakh MT urea was imported during 2001-02 to maintain the pipeline stock at a reasonable level. The entire requirement of urea in the country is presently being met through indigenous availability.